

REMARKS

The only issue outstanding in the office action mailed June 30, 2006, is the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 of solely claim 20. It is noted that claims 1-19 and 22-26 have been allowed.

Claim 20 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over JP 2003-287620 or JP 2003-193053. It is noted that the declaration filed in the present application contains a typographical error; the priority date of the EP is November 2, **2002**, not 2003 as noted in the declaration. A substitute declaration is providing herewith.

Also provided herewith is a verified translation of applicants priority document, having a filing date of November 2, 2002. Inasmuch as the two cited Japanese documents have publication dates in 2003, it is submitted that they are not available as prior art, and withdrawal of the objection of claim 20, and consequent objection to claim 21, is respectfully requested.

The claims in the application are submitted to be in condition for allowance. However, if the examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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